

Clean copies of amended claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16, are as follows:

1. A buckle including an auxiliary locking feature comprising:

a female buckle part including belt or strap receiving portion, and a body portion defining a recess for receiving a mating portion of a male buckle part and a pair of edge recesses;

a male buckle part including a belt or strap receiving portion, and a female buckle engaging part,

a cantilevered resilient member formed integrally with said male buckle part located within the recess of said female part when said buckle is engaged;

said male buckle engaging part of said female buckle part including a pair of flexible prongs for insertion into the recesses of said female part and for engaging said female part to secure the buckle parts together;

said prongs being accessible through said edge recesses for manually releasing said prongs to allow said male and female buckle parts to separate; and

a manually controlled button on said resilient member, said resilient member carrying means engaging the prongs of said male buckle part for selectively preventing the flexing of said prongs and release of said buckle parts, wherein said means which normally engage said prongs releases said prongs upon operation of said button.

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C2
B2

3. A buckle in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said female buckle part includes a front wall having an aperture therein and said button is accessible through said aperture.

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C3

8. A buckle in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said male buckle part includes a cantilevered tongue located between said prongs and carrying said button.

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C4
B3

9. A buckle in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said button is carried by said cantilevered tongue and operational to deflect said tongue away from said prongs to allow said prongs to flex and to release the buckle parts.

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C5

10. A buckle in accordance with Claim 1 wherein cantilevered resilient member is mounted for movement with respect to said prongs to move from a first prong locking position to a second prong unlocking position in response to manual operation of said button.

14. A plastic buckle comprising;

a female part including a belt attachment loop at one end and a male part receiving opening at the opposite end from said belt attachment loop;

said female part having a front face, a rear face and a pair of edges;

said female part defining a pair of recesses one in each of said edges communicating with said male part receiving opening;

a male part including a belt attachment loop at one end, and a pair of prongs at the opposite end dimensioned to enter said male part receiving opening in said female part and for engaging said recesses to secure said male and female parts together and to flex under finger pressure to release said male and female parts; and a cantilevered resilient member located between said prongs;

said buckle further including means carried on said cantilevered resilient member normally engaging said prongs when said prongs are positioned to secure said male and female parts together and for preventing the prongs from releasing said male and female parts; said buckle further including manually operable means for disengaging said prong release preventing means.

15. A plastic buckle comprising:

a female part including a belt attachment loop, an opening at the opposite end from said belt attachment loop, a front face, a rear face and a pair of edges, each of said edges including a recess communicating with said opening;

a male part including a belt attachment loop and a pair of prongs dimensioned to enter the opening of said female part, each of said pair of prongs

including a catch engaging one of said recesses to secure said male and female parts together, said prongs being adapted to flex under finger pressure to disengage said catch from said recesses to release said male and female parts; and a cantilevered tongue located between said prongs;

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said buckle further including a member normally engaging said prongs when said prongs are positioned to secure the male and female parts together to prevent said prongs from releasing said male and female parts; and

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(cont'd)
manually operable means carried on said cantilevered tongue for disengaging said prong engaging member from said prongs.

16. A buckle in accordance with claim 15 wherein said manually operable means includes a button and said cantilevered tongue carries said button and said member.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS:

19. A plastic buckle as claimed in claim 14 wherein said cantilevered resilient member is formed integrally with said male part

20. A buckle in accordance with claim 19 wherein said manually operable means includes a button and said cantilevered tongue carries said cantilevered resilient member.
